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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Docket No.: Q64412

Shinji EBATA

Appln. No.: 09/851,248

Group Art Unit: 3662

Confirmation No.: 2998

Examiner: not yet assigned

Filed: May 9, 2001

For: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR PROVIDING  
A TRANSPORTATION SERVICE

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

1. German Patent Publication No. DE 196 46 954 A1 dated August 27, 1998.
2. European Patent Application No. 0 032 607 A1 dated July 29, 1981.
3. European Patent Publication No. EP 1 076 326 A2 dated February 14, 2001.
4. French Patent Publication No. FR 2 740 249 dated April 25, 1997.
5. U.K. Patent Application No. GB 2 261 977 A dated June 2, 1993.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

U.S. Appln. No.: 09/851,248

Atty. Docket No.: Q64412

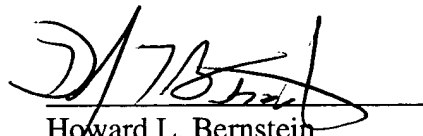
The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed: (1) No later than three months from the application's filing date; (2) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later); or (3) Before the mailing date of the first Office Action after filing a request for continued examination (RCE) under §1.114, and therefore, no Statement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from the European Patent Office dated February 10, 2004 citing such documents and indicating the degree of relevance found by the European Patent Office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is attached.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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WASHINGTON OFFICE

**23373**

CUSTOMER NUMBER

Date: March 3, 2004

Substitute for Form 1449 A &amp; B/PTO

Complete if Known

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet

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of

1

Application Number	09/851,248
Confirmation Number	2998
Filing Date	May 9, 2001
First Named Inventor	Shinji EBATA
Art Unit	3662
Examiner Name	not yet assigned
Attorney Docket Number	Q64412

**U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Document Number		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document
		Number	Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)		
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			
		US			

**FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Foreign Patent Document			Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Translation <sup>6</sup>
		Country Code <sup>3</sup>	Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			
		DE	196 46 954 A1		08-27-1998	DEUTSCHE TELEKOM MOBILNET	
		EP	0 032 607 A1		07-29-1981	Dwight M. BAUMANN	
		EP	1 076 326 A2		02-14-2001	TENOVIS GmbH & CO. KG	
		FR	2 740 249		04-25-1997	AXYGEST SOCIETE ANONYME	
		GB	2 261 977 A		06-02-1993	John Bernard LEONARD	

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**NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS**

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. <sup>1</sup>	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city, and/or country where published.	Translation <sup>6</sup>

Examiner Signature

Date Considered

\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

<sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>See Kind Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at [www.uspto.gov](http://www.uspto.gov), MPEP 901.04 or in the comment box of this document. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST. 3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to indicate here if English language Translation is attached.